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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Estonia)

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Eesti Vabaduse, Estonian Underground Movement

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ORIGIN

SUPPLEMENT

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1. In the autumn of 1944, source met some members of the Baltic Bloc, now called "Eesti-Vabaduse". This movement, fighting for the independence of the Baltic States, is headed by Heino Nurk, an Estonian who lived abroad for many years but returned to Estonia in 1943 and founded the movement.
2. Headquarters of the EV is in Tallinn. Its members meet in the building of the former Scheel Bank, the Hotel Imperial, the Domberg (former police building, now occupied by the Soviet Administration), and in the catacombs of the Alexander Nevski Cathedral (which have exits in many parts of the city). Members are supplied with weapons obtained from abandoned storage places of the former German Army. The movement now has about 4,000 members, of whom about 1,000 are in Latvia and 500 in Finland. Contact with Finland was established in September 1946. From Finland, a short-wave radio sender, taken from former German Army stocks, was sent; it was set up at Riga and operates on an 18 meter wave band.
3. In addition to the destruction of Russian war material, acts of sabotage are being committed by the EV. For instance, the distillery in Kivioli was destroyed several times, as well as the Turgel radio station. The organization is also responsible for the disappearance of the Russian commander of Tallinn, General Shmyov. [REDACTED], no subversive disturbances occur in Estonia except those engineered by the EV.
4. The EV has been very active in Paldiski, where the harbor is still unusable. A further group of EV has considerable disruptive influence in the Tarva region. The center of this group is in Lehte and the leader is Saar, the son (or nephew?) of a former Baltic Bloc leader.
5. Approximately 900 German PWs are said to be in contact with the EV and to have rendered valuable services already. Most of these men formerly belonged to SS formations.
6. [REDACTED] Heino Nurk, who is about 40-45 years old, was formerly a member of the Kaitseliit organization and that he became secretary of the Vabudussojalaste Liit, which was organized according to the Nazi system by the lawyer Sirk. After the occupation of Estonia by the Germans, Nurk voluntarily joined the Estonian Army, which came under the SS. (Washington Comment: A Prof. Mart Nurk was identified as having been connected with the pro-German Estonian nationalist movement in 1944.)

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